| ^ | 10 | n | \sim | \sim | ^ |
|---|----|----|--------|--------|---|
| 6 | '2 | 12 | u | u | 9 |

A. Statement of Planning Objectives

The planning objective for the Meccacopia Special Recreation Area Soil Survey Project is to sustain OHV recreation opportunities and natural resource conservation in OHV recreation areas simultaneously. The OHMVR Division of the California Department of Parks and Recreation and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in California jointly hold this core objective. To achieve this objective strategically, both agencies recognize the need for highest-quality information available as the basis for excellent decision making jointly for future management to benefit motorized recreation and natural resources on BLM public lands.

Soil conservation is a major concern to both agencies, and the Division has established the 2008 Soil Conservation Standard and Guidelines that provide a holistic vision of OHV recreation management for this century. One foundation for excellent decisions is thorough knowledge of the soils in project areas where OHV recreation is a major component of multiple-use public lands management. Unfortunately, BLM has no information about soils on its OHV recreation lands in Riverside County east of the Coachella Valley. A high-priority area statewide to bridge the gap in soils information is the Meccacopia Special Recreation Area and adjacent lands east of Indio. Riverside County has been a focus of the OHMVR Division and BLM to design OHV recreation areas that can meet the motorized recreation needs for county's growing population, particularly in the Coachella Valley.

A soil survey undertaken for the project area by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service is the professional standard nationally for describing, mapping, and interpreting soils and their properties. This grant proposes a significant advance in achieving soils information for an increasingly important Meccacopia Special Recreation Area. A map of the project area is attached to this grant application.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) public lands south of Interstate-10 in Riverside County are increasingly popular destinations for OHV motorized touring and recreation because the rugged landscape and OHV routes provide accessible riding opportunities for residents of the Coachella Valley and the Riverside-San Bernardino Metropolitan Area. A second map attached to this grant application shows that the project area (which occurs as a part portion of the NRCS soil survey area number CA803 in the NRCS soil survey part) has not management.

Most of the trails in the project area are historic vehicles trails created by users without the benefit of soils information. The soil survey information can be used to diagnose areas of the Meccacopia Special Recreation susceptible to erosion and in need of special consideration. The proposed soil survey can also assist with rerouting open routes in ways that avoid erosion from traffic use and from flash flooding that can render trails impassable for riders. The combination of steep slopes, sedimentary soils, and flash floods make the area vulnerable to soil loss.

One core goal for BLM management is achieving habitat protection for key species of concern in the area in concert with long-term sustainable OHV access. The soil survey will provide maps of bestshowing soil interpretations for wildlife habitat including animals that reside below ground, species such as the federally and State of California listed Desert Tortoise. GIS maps generated from the soil survey are invaluable as well as they provide the information for project planners about where best to site OHV-related facilities such as staging areas, campgrounds, hardened crossings, and other infrastructure that improve the OHV services in the landscapes of the Meccacopia and Chuckwalla Bench areas.

The roughly 75,000 acreage acres covered in this request for funds for a soil survey consists ONLY of BLM public lands open to OHV riding. BLM wilderness lands and any private lands are not part of this application.

C. Statement of Activities

The activities in this project require the work of employees at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Palm Springs/South Coast Field Office, the BLM California State Office, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff in Victorville and Davis, CA, as well as off-site support from NRCS staff in Arcata, CA, and Lincoln, NE.

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The soil survey project consists of the following activities:

- 1. BLM archaeologists will identify sites with cultural and historical significance as off-limits to soil sampling in advance of field surveys and soil field sampling with manual equipment and backhoes.
- 2. NRCS staff survey project will conduct pre-mapping analysis of the area terrain to select priority sites for soil sampling. NRCS staff and the BLM Palm Springs/South Coast archaeologist and wildlife biologist will then determine the best sampling sites so as to not impact cultural/historical resources and rare desert lizards and Desert Tortoises.
- 3. NRCS will undertake soil survey mapping field work, on-site sampling, and soil analyses in soil laboratories.
- 4. NRCS soil scientists specializing in data quality control and quality assurance will field check and verify validity of soil data produced according to standards established by the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) program for which NRCS provides national leadership.
- 5. NRCS will compile tabular and spatial data, prepare sol map unit descriptions & soil interpretations, prepare final soil survey report and maps, and create geodatabases for spatial analyses in geographic information systems (GIS). The completed soil survey information will be NCSS certified and made available to and accessible by the public on the Internet at the following websites:

http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm (for interactive on-line access to information)

http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/ (for download of tabular and spatial data)

6. NRCS staff soil scientists produce a NRCS-certified soil survey manuscript available (when completed) as a limited number of hard-copies delivered to BLM and also available in PDF format on-line at:

http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm

7. BLM California State Ecologist and NRCS plant scientist(s) in Victorville will work together to conduct field work and develop draft ecological site descriptions that link soils to the composition of native vegetation found on soils mapped in the soil survey. Ecological site descriptions will appear at the following website:

http://esis.sc.egov.usda.gov/

Additional supporting information is available at:

http://plants.usda.gov/

D. List of Reports

One interim report from the NRCS soil survey project team will be available for internal review for the staff of the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division, the BLM in California, and NRCS staff nationally. At the discretion of the OHMVR Division and the NRCS California State Office, BLM can submit the interim report for public review and comment.

A final report for the soil survey for the project area will be available for the public on-line. A limited number of hard copies will be available from the NRCS California State Office to the public. One hard copy each will be placed in the BLM National Library, the BLM California Library, and the OHMVR Division library in Sacramento.

The third reporting resource is the geospatial application of data from the soil survey report that translates soils survey information on a GIS platform for the general public to access to learn more about the soils of the Meccacopia Special Recreation Area. Tabular and spatial soil survey data can be downloaded for use in GIS from the following website:

http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/

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Additional Documentation for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 6/2/2009 Agency: BLM - California State Office Application: Planning Meccacopia Soil Survey

| FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: | Version # | APP # 700236 | |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------|--|
| | | | |

1. Timeline for Completion

Attachments:

Timeline for Completion of Soil Survey Activities

2. Optional Project-Specific Application Documents

3. Optional Project-specific Maps

Attachments:

Land Use and Land Ownership in the Vicinity of the Meccacopia SRMA

NRCS Soil Survey Acreage Total and Soil Sector Map

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Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 Agency: BLM - California State Office Application: Planning Meccacopia Soil Survey

| | FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: | Version # _ | | | APP # | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| APPLICANT NAME : | BLM - California State Office | | | | | | |
| PROJECT TITLE : | Planning Meccacopia Soil Survey | | | PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only): | | | |
| PROJECT TYPE : | ☐ Acquisition | ☐ Development | t | □ Edu | cation & Safety | ☐ Ground Ope | erations |
| PROJECT TIPE. | Law Enforcement | Planning | | Rest | toration | | |
| PROJECT DESCRIPTION | The planning objective for the M conservation in OHV recreation Management (BLM) in California information available as the basi public lands. Soil conservation is a major conholistic vision of OHV recreation where OHV recreation is a major recreation lands in Riverside Co Special Recreation Area and adjareas that can meet the motorized A soil survey undertaken for the mapping, and interpreting soils a Meccacopia Special Recreation | areas simultaneously. The jointly hold this core objects for excellent decision in the cern to both agencies, and management for this cern component of multiple-unity east of the Coachell jacent lands east of Indio ed recreation needs for component area by the USD and their properties. This | ne OHMVR Division ective. To achieve naking jointly for fut and the Division has natury. One foundatuse public lands may a Valley. A high-productive growing pool A Natural Resource of grant proposes as | established ion for exce anagement. iority area sepulation, pa | ifornia Department of Paye strategically, both agreement to benefit motorize the 2008 Soil Conservatilent decisions is thorous Unfortunately, BLM hastatewide to bridge the gardicularly in the Coache ion Service is the profest dvance in achieving soil | arks and Recreation and encies recognize the nevel recreation and naturation Standard and Guingh knowledge of the solution information about gap in soils information Division and BLM to deally Valley. | d the Bureau of Land eed for highest-quality ral resources on BLM delines that provide a bils in project areas soils on its OHV is the Meccacopia sign OHV recreation ally for describing, |
| Line Item | | Qty | Rate | UOM | Grant Request | Match | Total |
| DIRECT EXPENSES Program Expenses 1 Staff | | | | | | | |
| Management and | d Admin Staff | 40.000 | 75.080 | HRS | 0.00 | 3,003.00 | 3,003.00 |
| Management and | d Admin Staff | 10.000 | 41.020 | HRS | 0.00 | 410.00 | 410.00 |
| Other-BLM Contr | acts Officer | 25.000 | 51.040 | HRS | 0.00 | 1,276.00 | 1,276.00 |
| Ecologist | | 160.000 | 68.710 | | 0.00 | 10,994.00 | 10,994.00 |
| Other-BLM Archa | aeologist | 80.000 | 52.360 | HRS | 0.00 | 4,189.00 | 4,189.00 |
| Other-BLM Wildli | fe Biologist Palm Spring | 40,000 | 51 410 | HRS | 0.00 | 2 056 00 | 2 056 00 |

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 Agency: BLM - California State Office Application: Planning Meccacopia Soil Survey

| | Line Item | Qty | Rate | UOM | Grant Request | Match | Total |
|---|--|----------|------------|-----|---------------|------------|------------|
| | Other-CA SO OHV Program Mgr | 40.000 | 75.080 | | 0.00 | 3,003.00 | 3,003.00 |
| | Other-NRCS Soil Scientists | 1180.000 | 42.000 | | 0.00 | 49,560.00 | 49,560.00 |
| | Other-NRCS Range Conservationist | 390.000 | 42.000 | | 0.00 | 16,380.00 | 16,380.00 |
| | Other-NRCS Soil Data Quality Spec | 120.000 | 42.000 | | 0.00 | 5,040.00 | 5,040.00 |
| | Other-NRCS CA Rangeland Ecologist | 120.000 | 42.000 | | 0.00 | 5,040.00 | 5,040.00 |
| | Other-NRCS Editor | 60.000 | 42.000 | | 0.00 | 2,520.00 | 2,520.00 |
| | Total for Staff | | | | 0.00 | 103,471.00 | 103,471.00 |
| 2 | Contracts | | | | | | |
| | Other-Contract with the USDA NRCS | 1.000 | 139476.000 | HRS | 139,476.00 | 0.00 | 139,476.00 |
| 3 | Materials / Supplies | | | _ | | | |
| | Other-NRCS Materials and Suppliles | 1.000 | 200.000 | PKG | 0.00 | 200.00 | 200.00 |
| | Other-NRCS Map Digitization | 1.000 | 1250.000 | SET | 0.00 | 1,250.00 | 1,250.00 |
| | Other-NRCS Map Finishing | 1.000 | 2000.000 | SET | 0.00 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| | Other-NRCS Map and Manuscript Printing | 1.000 | 1200.000 | SET | 0.00 | 1,200.00 | 1,200.00 |
| | Other-GPS units | 2.000 | 100.000 | EA | 0.00 | 200.00 | 200.00 |
| | Other-Tablet Computers and Docking Stati | 2.000 | 850.000 | | 0.00 | 1,700.00 | 1,700.00 |
| | Total for Materials / Supplies | | | | 0.00 | 6,550.00 | 6,550.00 |
| 4 | Equipment Use Expenses | | | | | | |
| | Field Vehicle | 720.000 | 0.500 | MI | 0.00 | 360.00 | 360.00 |
| 5 | Equipment Purchases | | | | | | |
| 6 | Others | | | | | | |
| 7 | Administrative Costs | | | | | | |

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 Agency: BLM - California State Office Application: Planning Meccacopia Soil Survey

| L | Line Item | Qty | Rate | UOM | Grant Request | Match | Total |
|----------|-----------------|-----|------|-----|---------------|------------|------------|
| Total Pr | ogram Expenses | | | | 139,476.00 | 110,381.00 | 249,857.00 |
| TOTAL | DIRECT EXPENSES | | | | 139,476.00 | 110,381.00 | 249,857.00 |
| TOTAL I | EXPENDITURES | | | | 139,476.00 | 110,381.00 | 249,857.00 |

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 Agency: BLM - California State Office Application: Planning Meccacopia Soil Survey

| | 11, 200 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 | | | | | | | | |
|------|---|---------------|------------|------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| | Line Item | Grant Request | Match | Total | Narrative | | | | |
| DIRE | DIRECT EXPENSES | | | | | | | | |
| Prog | ram Expenses | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Staff | 0.00 | 103,471.00 | 103,471.00 | | | | | |
| 2 | Contracts | 139,476.00 | 0.00 | 139,476.00 | | | | | |
| 3 | Materials / Supplies | 0.00 | 6,550.00 | 6,550.00 | | | | | |
| 4 | Equipment Use Expenses | 0.00 | 360.00 | 360.00 | | | | | |
| 5 | Equipment Purchases | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | |
| 6 | Others | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | |
| 7 | Administrative Costs | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | |
| Tota | Program Expenses | 139,476.00 | 110,381.00 | 249,857.00 | | | | | |
| тот | AL DIRECT EXPENSES | 139,476.00 | 110,381.00 | 249,857.00 | | | | | |
| тот | AL EXPENDITURES | 139,476.00 | 110,381.00 | 249,857.00 | | | | | |

Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS) for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 Agency: BLM - California State Office Application: Planning Meccacopia Soil Survey

| | FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: | Version # | APP # 700236 | | | | |
|----|---|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----|----------|-------|----------|
| ľ | TEM 1 and ITEM 2 | | | | | | |
| a. | ITEM 1 ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Deterr (Please select Yes or No) | nination (NOD) beer | filed for the Project? | C | Yes | • | No |
| | ITEM 2 | | | | | | |
| b. | ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a (Please select Yes or No) | "Project" under CEQ | A Guidelines Section 15378? | • | Yes | С | No |
| C. | The Application is requesting funds sol and ensure public safety. These activit environment and are thus not a "Project | ies would not cause | any physical impacts on the | C | Yes | C | No |
| d. | Other. Explain why proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT con | • | physical impacts on the envir | onn | nent and | d are | thus not |

ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

Impact on Wetlands

No permanent wetlands exist in the project area apart from desert springs and fan palm oases, all of which rely on geologic water rather than rainfall ("meteoric water") for their continuing function. Work under this project may include sampling of rare desert hydric soils. Sampling hydric soils would involve ground disturbance resulting from coring soils or digging a small pit to a depth of as much as six feet to obtain a soil layer profile for photography and samples for laboratory analysis. An entire core may be removed from the site, depending on the information needs of the NRCS soil survey team to characterize a particular hydric soil. A small pit (except for a core sample) would be refilled returning each soil layer to its natural sequence in the soil profile and its natural depth in accordance with Best Management Practices in use by the USDA NRCS.

Ephemeral wetlands (without permanent subsurface water) exist in the form of flash flood washes. Soil sampling with cores or pits for wash soils and soils that comprise soil banks may be sampled in the course of the survey. In no case, however, would soil sampling occur at a site that would destabilize wash banks or lead to severe erosion (i.e., on steep slopes).

Impact on Navigable Waters

No navigable waters are present in the project area.

Impacts to Sensitive Habitats and Species

Four sensitive habitats occur in the project area: springs, desert fan palm oases, Sonoran Desert thorn woodland, Desert Tortoise critical habitat, and Federally designated wilderness. Springs and palm oases are discussed above. The soil survey does not cover wilderness areas inside the project area, and this project requires no entry into wilderness.

BLM Best Management Practices to protect the Desert Tortoise in all habitats, and especially in the Desert Wildlife Management Areas, are listed in an appendix to the NEPA Categorical Exclusion Document that accompanies this grant application. Also, NRCS soil survey teams from the Victorville and Las Vegas NRCS field offices, who would be taking part in the soil survey, receive annual training in Endangered Species awareness and the Best Management Practices. A Palm Springs / South Coast wildlife biologist works with the soil survey team to site soil samples in such a way that there is no risk to take of Desert Tortoise or its habitat.

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For Sonoran Desert thorn woodland, no deep soil sample pits of any size are dug under the canopy drip line of trees. Small-diameter cores, however, may be sampled inside the dripline perimeter of trees for characterizing topsoil and plant

litter layers.

During the spring before the soil survey commences, the BLM Park Ranger/Botanical Technician will survey potential land forms and habitats within the project area for localities where the Coachella Valley Mikvetch, a federally endangered species, might occur. The taxon occurs to the north and west of the project area.

State of California species listed as endangered that may be present are Elf Owl and Gila Woodpecker. These species occur in desert fan palm oases and in Sonoran Desert thorn woodland, two habitats previously mentioned. If the Palm Springs / South Coast wildlife biologist working with the NRCS soil survey team deems that soil sampling would unduly disturb Elf Owl or Gila Woodpecker, the survey team would move to a comparable site where either species does not occur or is not likely to occur.

In all cases, vehicle travel takes place on the public OHV route system designated by the Palm Springs / South Coast Field Office, unless the Field Office issues a special authorization to NRCS based on a request from NRCS before digging a pit or boring a core. In this way, vehicle travel will not add any new impact to wildlife habitat or T&E wildlife species.

ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

The NRCS soil survey for the non-wilderness portions of the Meccacopia Special Recreation Area and nearby OHV travel areas is a one-time project conducted to support the forthcoming Meccacopia Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP). The resulting cumulative impacts will be more broadly informed decision-making for developing the Meccacopia RAMP for long-term opportunities for sustainable motorized recreation in this popular area.

ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts

The significant effect of the soil survey project on the environment is a positive one. The NRCS soil survey contains important information about the properties of soils on steep slopes and the susceptibility of soils in the project area to move as the result of wind or water erosion. Information in the soil survey will inform BLM resource planners and the general public about soil properties and the impact of OHV recreation and travel on the diverse soils in the project area. With expanded information on soils, people will make better decisions about resource management and conservation under multiple uses.

ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources

There is no potential for damage to scenic resources within the viewshed of a highway designated as a state scenic highway. Highway 111 runs close to the southwest perimeter of the project area. It is elligible for designation as a state scenic highway but is officially designated. The ground-based disturbances from the soil survey work would be so small as to be invisible in the viewshed from on Highway 111 from the intersection with state route 195 to the Riverside-Imperial county line.

ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Yes No Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No)

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to Yes No historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No)

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Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS) for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: BLM - California State Office
Application: Planning Meccacopia Soil Survey

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts

There is a remote possibility that the results of the soil survey might reveal environmental information about soils that would prompt BLM resource managers to reroute or close a designated public OHV trail. However, the goal of having an available soil survey for the Meccacopia region is to plan for sustainable opportunities for motorized recreation in the multiple-use landscape of the Meccacopia region. The BLM planning effort for which this soil survey applies is designed to provide ongoing, low-impact motorized recreation using the best available information for the best decision making.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

09 CASO Meccacopia Soil Survey CX

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Planning Project Criteria for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 6/2/2009 Agency: BLM - California State Office Application: Planning Meccacopia Soil Survey

| | FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: | Version # | AP | P # 700236 | |
|-------|--|---|--|--|-----|
| 1. | Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto pop | ulates from Cos | t Estimate) | | |
| 1. | As calculated on the Project Cost Estim Applicant is 3 | ate, the percenta | ge of the Project co | sts covered by the | |
| | (Check the one most appropriate) (Plea | se select one fro | m list) | | |
| | 76% or more (10 points) | | C 51% - 75% (5 | points) | |
| | © 26% - 50% (3 points) | | C 25% (Match mi | nimum) (No points) | |
| 2. | Planning Project - Q 2. | | | | |
| A Pla | nning Project - Page 1 | | | | |
| 2 | The Planning Project would address the | following 3 | | | |
| | (Check all that apply) (Please select ap ✓ Potential effects of OHV Recreatio ✓ Potential impact to relationships be ✓ Toxic or hazardous materials withi ✓ Trail issues such as traffic patterns | on on special-statu on on cultural reso on on soil conditio on on water quality on on other recrea on on adjacent lar etween OHV Rec on a Project Area | ources ns y ntion uses nds. reation and local res or adjacent property | that may impact OHV Recreation | |
| B. Pl | anning Project - Page 2 | | | | |
| | Explain each statement that was check | ed | | | |
| | The NRCS soil survey for the Meccacop and OHV recreation planners at the Pal network to avoid adversely impacting D The soil survey provides information on | m Springs Field (esert Tortoises a | Office in decision mand Big-horned Shee | aking for adapting the OHV route p. | ost |
| | suitable for OHV recreation. | Willon Solls are in | nost impacted by Of | TV recreation and which soils are in | JSt |
| | The soil survey will alert managers to so take measure that safeguard the quality Information from the soil survey is impo | of water flowing | through Salt Creek | _ | to |
| | (Check the one most appropriate) (Plea | se select one fro | m list) | | |
| | 6 or more items checked (4 points | | • 4 to 5 items ch | ecked (3 points) | |
| | © 2 to 3 items checked (2 points) | , | | hecked (No points) | |
| 3. | Motorized Access - Q 3. | | | | |
| 3 | The Project would lead to improved faci | lities that provide | motorized access to | o the following | |
| | nonmotorized recreation opportunities | 6 | | | |
| | (Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points 6 | each, up to a max | · | Please select applicable values) | |
| | ✓ Camping | | ☑ Birding | | |
| | ✓ Hiking | | Equestrian trail | S | |
| | ☐ Fishing ☐ Other (Specify) | | ▼ Rock Climbing | | |

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| | | , ipproduction is the state of |
|----|----|---|
| 4. | | Public Input - Q 4. |
| | 4. | The Project proposal was developed with public input employing the following 1 |
| | | (Check all that apply) Scoring: Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values) ☐ Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point) ☐ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point) ☐ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point) |
| | | Explain each statement that was checked |
| | | BLM soil scientists and ecologists have conferred many times about the need for a soil survey for the Meccacopia Special Recreation Management Area with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service. This project has been proposed once before - at that time the soil survey was discussed as part of the suite of projects submitted by the Palm Springs Field Office. |
| 5. | | Stakeholder Input - Q 5. |
| | 5. | If the Project were approved, the planning process would incorporate substantial stakeholder input: 5 |
| | | (Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list) |
| | | No (No points) Yes (5 points) |
| | | If 'Yes', explain, specifically, how it would be 'substantial'. Identify stakeholders |
| | | BLM Palm Springs Field Office with support of the BLM California State Office staff will make a presentation about the benefits and utilities associated with NRCS soil surveys. Stakeholders interested in the Meccacopia SRMA will provide comments and suggested for additional soil interpretations or uses for the soil survey that would help their understanding of soils in the Meccacopia SRMA |
| 6. | | Utilization of Partnerships - Q 6. |
| | 6. | The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 1 |
| | | (Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list) |
| | | C 4 or more (4 points) |
| | | (1 point) None (No points) |
| | | List partner organization(s) |
| | | USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, California State Office and the Victorville Field Office BLM Palm Springs Field Office and Calfiornia State Office |
| 7. | | Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 7. |
| | 7. | The Planning Project sustains OHV Opportunity in the following manner 6 |
| | | (Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values) ☐ Project will develop management plans for existing OHV Opportunity (4 points) ☐ Project will complete environmental review for an OHV Development Project (3 points) ☐ Project supports development of OHV Opportunities adjacent to population centers (3 points) ☐ Project supports development of OHV Opportunities in areas that lack legal OHV Opportunity (2 points) ☐ Project will develop a system of designated OHV routes for an existing OHV Opportunity (2 points) |
| | | Explain each atatement that was absolved |

Explain each statement that was checked

The NRCS soil survey will provide a basis for decision making for a management plan for the Meccacopia Special Recreation Management Area which will set the track for developing OHV recreation opportunites and services in this site, which is close to the Coachella Valley cities - an area of rapid growth and where OHV riding is popular.

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Planning Project Criteria for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 6/2/2009 Agency: BLM - California State Office Application: Planning Meccacopia Soil Survey

8. Identification of Funding Sources - Q 8.

| 8. | Funds for implementing the completed plan have been identified 5 | | | | | |
|----|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| | (Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list) | | | | | |
| | No (No points) | Yes (5 points) | | | | |
| | Explain 'Yes' response | | | | | |
| | The soil survey will support alternatives for management and planning for the Meccacopia Special Recreation Management Area. | | | | | |
| | Reference Document | | | | | |
| | The Plan and environmental impact statement will be forthcoming for the Meccacopia SRMA. This area is keystone in the OHV recreation services for the BLM Palm Springs FO. | | | | | |
| (| Offsite Impacts - Q 9. | | | | | |
| 9. | The Planning Project would address offsite impacts relative dust, runoff): 5 | ve to the Project Area (e.g., sound, fugitive | | | | |

Explain 'Yes' response

No (No points)

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

9.

The soil survey will identify which soils are most susceptible to generating air-borne dust when ridden on by motorized vehicles and where those dust-prone soils are located. Also, the soil survey will provide supporting information that BLM managers can use to put sediment controls in the landscape to prevent sediment from OHV trails from entering Salt Creek and the Chuckwalla Bench during flash floods.

Yes (5 points)

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